



# Mark Twain National Forest

## Cole Creek Trail

*Missouri*

Eastern Region, USDA Forest Service

February 23, 2018

**Attractions:** Cole Creek Trail winds through scenic Ozark hill country of oak and pine, native grass fields, bottomland hardwoods, and vistas of the Gasconade River. Remnants of old farmsteads give glimpses to the past.

With the assistance of volunteers from the Back Country Horsemen of Missouri, several new loops have been developed, providing 4 trail loops marked by different color trail diamonds. The trail is open for horseback riders, mountain bikers and hikers. There are 3 ponds on or near the trail. If a longer ride is desired, woods roads can be used on surrounding National Forest. The original southwestern loop of the trail is marked with **YELLOW** diamonds and the original southeastern loop is marked with **ORANGE** diamonds. The two new northern loops are marked with **BLUE** and **RED** diamonds. This 20 mile trail, separated into 4 loop trail sections can be accessed at several different points. The main trailhead with parking for horse trailers, hitching rails/high lines, and picnic tables is located at the south end of the ORANGE loop along Village Road. A smaller trailhead is located further north along Village Road or on Forest Road 1655.

**Considerations:** Due to rocky trail conditions, horses should be shod. There are no developed facilities along this trail. Camping along the trail is "primitive". Bring your own drinking water or be prepared to sterilize water you find along the trail. Ponds along the trail provide water for stock. Practice "**Leave No Trace**" ethic techniques.

### Nearby Facilities/Attractions:

Gasconade River access  
Fort Leonard Wood Military Reservation

**Best Seasons:** Spring and Fall

### For More Information:

Houston/Rolla/Cedar Creek Ranger District  
108 S. Sam Houston Blvd.  
Houston, MO 65483  
Phone: (417) 967-4194 Fax: (417) 967-2524  
Monday-Friday 8:00 to 4:30

**Directions:** From Waynesville, MO travel west on I-44. Take exit 145. Turn left (south) over I-44 to Hwy AB. Turn left (east) on Hwy AB. Take the first road to the right (Spring Road). Travel south and west on Spring Road to Hwy K (first paved road to the left). Turn left (south) on Hwy K and travel about 6 miles to the junction with Hwy AC. At Hwy K/AC junction, turn left (east) on Flagstone Road. Go about 1 mile on Flagstone Road and turn left (north) on Village Drive. Cole Creek trailhead is on the right about 1/4 mile.

**Use (Travel Time):** Foot travel (8-12 hours), horseback (4-6 hours), and mountain bike.

### Length/Difficulty level:

4 loops of various mileage - Total of approx. 20 Miles

Orange diamonds (Southeast Loop) ... 5.3 Miles

Yellow diamonds (Southwest Loop)... 5.9 Miles

Blue diamonds (Northeast Loop) ..... 4.4 Miles

Red diamonds (Northwest Loop) ..... 3.6 Miles

Blue Connector ..... 0.5 Miles

Green Connector ..... 0.7 Miles

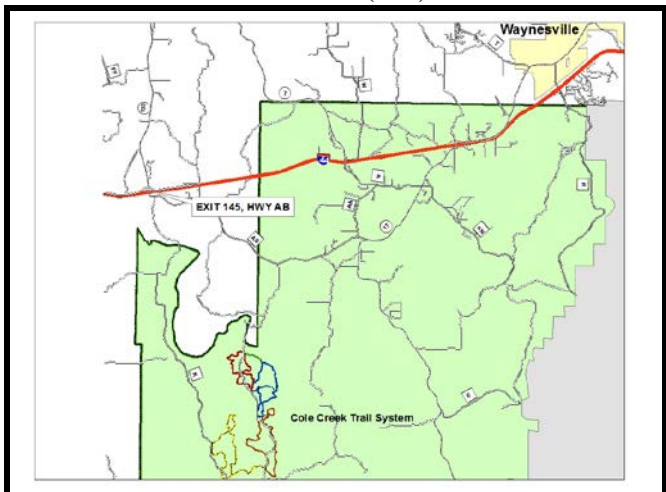
**Safety:** During temperate months, be prepared for biting insects, poison ivy and high temperatures. Be advised of hunting seasons. Avoid using the trail during excessively wet periods.

**Trail Surface Type:** Unsurfaced, native material

**Emergency Contacts:** 911

**Laclede County Sheriff:** (417) 532-2311

**Laclede Co. Med. Center:** (417) 532-2136



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**Mark Twain National Forest**

401 Fairgrounds Road, Rolla, MO 65401





# Houston/Rolla/Cedar Creek Ranger District

## Cole Creek Trail System

### Legend



Parking Area



Trailhead

### NAME

BLUE CONNECTOR

BLUE LOOP

GREEN CONNECTOR

ORANGE LOOP

RED LOOP

YELLOW LOOP



Orange Diamonds 5.3 Miles  
Yellow Diamonds 5.9 Miles  
Blue Diamonds 4.4 Miles  
Red Diamonds 3.6 Miles  
Blue Connector 0.5 Miles  
Green Connector 0.7 Miles

0 0.5 1 Miles

